

VOL. 66 ISSUE 04 • APRIL 2025

# THE EDMONTON UNITARIAN

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE UNITARIAN CHURCH OF EDMONTON

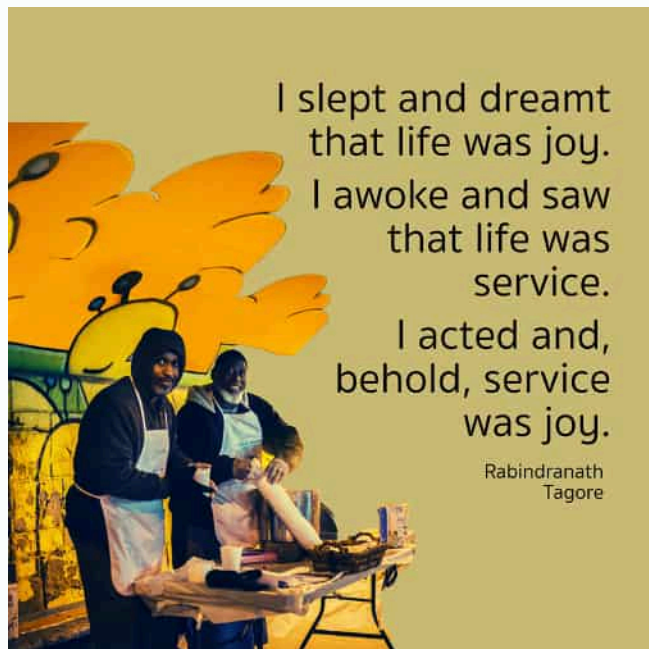
## LIVING LOVE THROUGH THE PRACTICE OF JOY



[April's Package: click here](#)

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### Land Acknowledgement

In accordance with our principles, we acknowledge with gratitude that we gather on traditional Cree lands that are part of Treaty Six and shared by many nations.

A treaty is an inheritance, a responsibility and a relationship. May we be good neighbours to one another, good stewards to our planet and good ancestors to our children.



# Sunday Services, 10:30 am

**Apr 6**

**Looking for Joy**

**Chorealis**

Reverend Rosemary and Chorealis approach joy from multiple perspectives - because you just never know where you will find it!

**Apr 13**

**Joy, Give Into It**

**Rev. Morrison**

Please join Rev. Rosemary as we explore how joy and pain are so often intertwined. Poetry, music, and art can help us navigate strong emotions. This service will bring to life creative methods and mediums that can help us sort through and process our deeper feelings.

**Apr 20**

**The Earth Brings Us Life and Joy  
(Family Friendly Service)**

**Rev. Morrison**

This Easter Sunday service will have us celebrating the joy we find in nature. Easter Sunday lands right before Earth Day this year, so it seems fitting that we celebrate nature in its joyful renewal. There will be a potluck after the service as well as a time to bid Art Breier well as he moves to Calgary.

**Apr 27**

**Making Sense of a Career**

**Guy Milner**

Gordon Ritchie, service leader for this service, will be introducing us to guest speaker Guy Milner. His topic: Making Sense of a Career, should prove very interesting. Come prepared to be enlightened and intrigued.



**We look forward to seeing you all on Zoom from the comfort of your own environs. Please use this link:  
[https://zoom.us/j/97779453314?  
pwd=VVB1VWF5ZUd0UGU1ZXQ5UGVxb0tXQT09](https://zoom.us/j/97779453314?pwd=VVB1VWF5ZUd0UGU1ZXQ5UGVxb0tXQT09)**

# March's Ministerial Reflections

**Quote – Khalil Gibran**

***When you are joyous, look deep into your heart and you shall find it is only that which has given you sorrow that is giving you joy. When you are sorrowful look again in your heart, and you shall see that in truth you are weeping for that which has been your delight.***

Here we are in April, and when I write this the snow is falling and the roads are treacherous. The snow is making me very unhappy today, and yet, while I was sledding not long ago, it brought me so much joy. Joy is the theme for this month, and it is indeed a complicated emotion as Kahlil Gibran points out.

Joy and sorrow, though fleeting, are the emotions that often define our lives. We strive to be happy, to find joy, and we try very hard to avoid sorrow. However, they are deeply intertwined, you can't have one without the other. We know what to do with joy, we simply en-JOY it! Do we know what to do though, when sorrow hits, as it will to everyone experiencing this human existence?

For me, when sorrow presents itself, I need to talk about it. Some need to be still and quiet to think and process, while others push the unpleasantness aside and try to carry on. Being part of a congregation, having a 'church' family if you will, gives us the structure to experience these strong emotions safely.

When joy is abundant in our lives, we can share it with friends, family, and on Sunday mornings here at UCE. Joy shared, as they say, is joy multiplied.

When sorrow, the flip side of joy strikes, UCE is here to support you. Come to a Sunday service and talk about it during coffee time. During the check in at a meeting you can share your sorrow and have kind people hear you. Also, being part of this community means you have access to professional ministry that includes pastoral care.

As we explore the concept of joy in April, let's be ever mindful that joy, and sorrow, are part of who we are and even though what we seek is joy, we must be prepared to handle sorrow.

UCE is here to support you whatever you are going through!

In peace,  
Rev. Rosemary

# Church Business

*President's Ponderings*  
by Lynne Turvey

## V is for...

...Vital Volunteerism! That's what UCE is built on. If you think about it – even for a few seconds – you realize that without volunteers we would not have a church – period.

A full-time minister and part-time administrator are the only paid staff right now. Everything else that keeps UCE operating relies on volunteers. That includes activities and events for raising money.

Spring is a big time for fundraising events – the Casino, April 21 and 22, and the Garage Sale, May 1 to 3. The casino needs a few more back-up workers who could be called on to fill in for any spots on short notice. The garage sale will require dozens of contributors to donate items and to work on many tasks for pre-sale, sale days and post-sale needs. You'll find more details about both fundraisers in this newsletter and/or the Friday email.

Those are the most pressing volunteer needs right now. But opportunities to serve your church are abundant. Organizing Sunday morning greeters is one of those, as Jennifer Hinchcliffe has retired her clipboard. Attending the CUC annual meeting as a UCE delegate is another current need.

Every one of us has a special gift or talent to bring to the life of our church. We see that in all our many wonderful volunteers right now. So seriously consider saying “yes” to calls for help. Benefits will accrue to you, the volunteer, as well. Consider these wise words from my AI friend, Gemini:

Volunteering provides a sense of purpose and satisfaction. It can reduce stress, combat loneliness and promote overall well being. It helps individuals feel more connected to their community and strengthens a sense of belonging. In essence, volunteerism creates a mutually beneficial relationship where both the cause and the volunteers experience positive outcomes.

I couldn't have said it better myself!

## Request for CUC Delegate

Our church can send three delegates to the annual general meeting of the national organization, the Canadian Unitarian Council, which will happen on Zoom on Saturday, May 31. Rev. Rosemary Morrison and Louise Charach will take two of the spots. Anyone who would like to be our third delegate may contact board secretary Susan Ruttan at [ruttans@shaw.ca](mailto:ruttans@shaw.ca).



This year's canvass ended on Sunday March 30th, but there are still a couple of days in April to submit a pledge until we close off our numbers.

[If you have not pledged yet, then do it now with this link please.](#)

We prepare our canvass plan in November, launch canvass in the January newsletter, send out letters to our donors with their tax receipts in February, and then speak in church every Sunday in March to get people to pledge.

Once March is done, we tally the pledges, complete the acknowledgements, add in any monthly donors that forgot to pledge, and then call anyone that was missed. By the end of the first week in April I sit down and figure out an estimate of next year's donations based on pledges. If canvass is successful then I write up my canvass report and I'm done. If canvass comes up short, then we may have to pull out the budget and make cuts.

As I write this newsletter article, I do not yet know what the final canvass amount will be. I will report the final amount at the AGM on May 4th. I just hope that enough people took Just One Step to support the work of our church.



Thank you to everyone who submitted their 2025 pledges.

## UCE Annual General Meeting – Celebrating Our Community

Join us for the UCE AGM on Sunday, May 4 at 11:45 am to celebrate our community and shape the future! We'll:

- Hear updates from staff and committees
- Decide on budget allocations
- Elect new Board

Your voice matters! Members (60+ days) can vote. Light lunch will be provided. Questions? Ask a board member. See you there!

# APRIL

## Farewell, but not Good-bye Potluck



Please join Rev. Rosemary after the service on April 20th to say "farewell" to Art Breier, a stalwart member of the congregation and valued volunteer of the Building Maintenance Crew. Laugh, cry and bring a dish to share as we wish Art the best with his move to Calgary.

## April Sharing Our Abundance



Child Haven International is a registered not for profit charity founded in 1985. Assisting children and women in developing countries, who are in need of food, education, health care, shelter and clothing, emotional and moral support.

The existence of  
broccoli does not, in  
any way, affect the  
taste of chocolate.

John Green



# LIFELONG SPIRITUAL GROWTH



*Soul Matters*

For April's Theme Package, [click here](#)

- Soul Matters Movie Night will be Friday, April 25 at 6 pm

Unicamp is a Unitarian Universalist camp in Ontario that is committed to providing a safe and welcoming seasonal camp and spiritual retreat to our diverse community. Registration for 2025 is now open.

<https://unicampofontario.ca/>



Unitarian Universalist Camp and Conference Centre  
Mulmur, Ontario



We're only here for a minute.  
We're here for a little window.  
And to use that time to catch  
and share shards of light and  
laughter and grace seems  
to me the great story.

Brian Doyle



UUs  
ON TAP

Wed | Apr 30 | 6pm

THREE VIKINGS

10713 124 ST

JOIN REV. ROSEMARY FOR A WARM AND WELCOMING APRIL GATHERING—A WONDERFUL OPPORTUNITY TO CONNECT WITH FELLOW UUS, SHARE IN COMMUNITY, AND NOURISH BOTH HEART AND SPIRIT. WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU THERE!



# GATHERING

*Here*

featuring *Chorealis*, the choir of the  
Unitarian Church of Edmonton  
performing choral works  
by Gordon Ritchie

Saturday, May 10, 2025  
Unitarian Church of Edmonton  
10804 - 119 Street  
7:30 PM | tickets: \$20

## UCE'S BIGGEST FUNDRAISER

# CASINO UPDATE

**Volunteer Sign up is open!**

**<https://volunteersignup.org/FC94W>**

**MONDAY, TUESDAY | APRIL 21, 22**

**EDMONTON PURE CASINO ON ARGYL RD**

We're close to a full roster for the Casino but still need four key positions:

- 1 cashier on Monday evening, April 21
- 3 countroom workers on the night of April 22

We also need backup workers in case of last-minute cancellations. If called in, you must be available for any shift; if not, no need to come in. For questions or transportation needs, contact Brandie ([brmoller@hotmail.com](mailto:brmoller@hotmail.com).)

**Huge thanks to everyone who has signed up!**



# The UCE Massive Garage Sale Starts May 1<sup>st</sup>



**We need your help for our annual garage sale! We need your donations to sell, your help to prepare, and your participation on sale days. Look for the sign-up sheets in the lobby and come and help with this important church fund raiser.**

## **Donate**

**Bring us your donations for the sale starting Saturday, April 19<sup>th</sup> until April 30<sup>th</sup>.**

**Hours of drop off are 10 am to 3 pm, except Sundays**

**No furniture, computers, or clothes please**

## **Setup**

**Help us set up, sort, and price the donations from April 19<sup>th</sup> to the 30<sup>th</sup>.**

## **Sell**

**Help us on the sale days of May 1<sup>st</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup>**

**Sign up to help during the sale as cashiers, helpers, and hot dog makers**

**Let's make this year's garage sale a massive success!**

# CUC Events



**Congregational Conversations: Transitions (1 of 2)**  
Wednesday, April 9 – 11:00 am MT  
<https://cuc.ca/events/congregational-conversations-transitions-1/1744203600/1744209000/>

**Rising Together: Unitarian Universalists of Colour |**  
Wednesday, April 9, 5:30 MT  
<https://cuc.ca/events/rising-together-unitarian-universalists-of-colour-april-2025/1744227000/1744232400/>



**Congregational Conversations: Transitions (2 of 2)**  
Saturday, April 12 – 11:00 am MT  
<https://cuc.ca/events/congregational-conversations-transitions-2/1744462800/1744468200/>

**AGM 2025 Conversations, Saturday, Apr 19 - 11:00 am MT**  
<https://cuc.ca/events/agm-2025-conversations-2/1745067600/1745073000/>



**Connect and Deepen: Transforming**  
Saturday, April 19, 2:00 pm MT  
<https://cuc.ca/events/connect-and-deepen-april-2025/1745078400/1745083800/>

**Dismantling Barriers: Talking About Bylaws**  
Thursday, April 24, 5:00 pm MT  
<https://cuc.ca/events/dismantling-barriers-talking-about-bylaws-2/1745521200/1745530200/>





# Pastoral Care

The newly minted Pastoral Care Team offers practical, spiritual, and emotional support to our congregation. Members and friends were helped with housing, visiting and messages of care.

**The team is ready!**

**How We Help:**



Meal Deliveries: For those recovering and unable to cook.



Transportation: For rides to church.



Friendly Visits: For those in senior residences or with mobility issues.



We can also send caring cards upon request.

**For assistance:**

Contact Gloria Krenbrenk our Caring Connections Dispatcher at 780-668-9166 or at [ucecares@uce.com](mailto:ucecares@uce.com).

To contact the whole team **anytime**, there is an easy way to do this. Simply go to our website, <https://www.uce.ca/contact-us/> and click on the pastoral care link.

**Rev. Rosemary, Carol Hutchings, Alec Moorji and Gloria Krenbrenk**

# Shaping Our CommUUnity



## **Vision:**

**We open doors to all seekers of spiritual growth and nurture positive change for a just and healthy world.**

## **Mission:**

UCE Mission is to inspire social justice by questioning the status quo, engaging community and inviting all to the table.

We do this by providing an intentionally inclusive home to:

- nurture spiritual growth and transformation
- foster learning opportunities and outreach experiences
- welcome all age groups
- support action for social justice
- be guided by the principles and sources of Unitarian Universalism

## **UCE Covenant of Right Relations:**

With love as our guide, we pledge to create a beloved community of peace and compassion. We trust our ability to work through conflict. As members and friends of UCE, we agree to:

- Honour and respect diversity in values and beliefs as a source of communal strength
- Be truthful, kind and open minded
- Assume good intent and goodwill
- Listen with open hearts and speak with care even when it is uncomfortable
- Talk to, not about, others
- Accept responsibility for our individual acts
- Address conflict promptly and ask for help when conflict is too difficult
- Be steadfast in support of our community in times of disagreement
- Share the ministry of the congregation through our gifts of time, talent and money
- Express encouragement and appreciation for the gifts of others

# The Principles and Sources of our Religious Faith

UU congregations affirm and promote eight principles, which we hold as strong values and moral guides. As Rev. Barbara Wells ten Hove explains, “The principles are not dogma or doctrine, but rather a guide for those of us who choose to join and participate in UU religious communities.”

## Our Eight Principles

- The inherent worth and dignity of every person;
- Justice, equity, and compassion in human relations;
- Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations;
- A free and responsible search for truth and meaning;
- The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large;
- The goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all;
- Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.
- Individual and communal action that accountably dismantles racism and systemic barriers to full inclusion in ourselves and our institutions

We live out these principles within a “living tradition” of wisdom and spirituality, drawn from such diverse sources as science, poetry, scripture, and personal experience.

## Our Six Sources

- Direct experience of that transcending mystery and wonder, affirmed in all cultures, which moves us to a renewal of the spirit and an openness to the forces which create and uphold life;
- Words and deeds of prophetic people which challenge us to confront powers and structures of evil with justice, compassion, and the transforming power of love;
- Wisdom from the world’s religions which inspires us in our ethical and spiritual life;
- Jewish and Christian teachings which call us to respond to God’s love by loving our neighbours as ourselves;
- Humanist teachings which counsel us to heed the guidance of reason and the results of science, and warn us against idolatries of the mind and spirit;
- Spiritual teachings of Earth-centred traditions which celebrate the sacred circle of life and instruct us to live in harmony with the rhythms of nature.
- Grateful for the religious pluralism which enriches and ennobles our faith, we are inspired to deepen our understanding and expand our vision. As free congregations we enter into this covenant, promising to one another our mutual trust and support.

**Please enjoy watching recordings of our Sunday Services again on YouTube or listen as a Podcast on SoundCloud. Just click on the link and don't forget to subscribe while you are there.**

### **Join us in conversation on Social Media**

- Facebook Group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/41659071349/>
- Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/UnitarianChurch/>
- YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCmpm5DXHKM7pRnnzcC75txQ>
- SoundCloud: <https://soundcloud.com/user-189401827>
- Twitter: <https://twitter.com/UnitarianUCE>
- Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/unitarianuce/>

Please make sure that you continue to update your Zoom account. Zoom regularly updates to release new features and fix bugs. We recommend upgrading to the latest version once it is available. How to update Zoom: <https://support.zoom.us>

## **Listen Everywhere Renamed Listen Wi-Fi**

Listen Wi-Fi is a service to replace our aging FM radios.

### First time user

Step 1: Connect to UCE wifi on your mobile device

- In WiFi settings select UCE
- Type in Password:

Step 2: Download Listen WiFi App (from app store)

Step 3: Tap on Listen WiFi app on your device

Step 4: Select venue - UCE

Step 5: Adjust volume on your device



### Returning user

Step 1: Connect to UCE wifi on your mobile device

- In WiFi settings select UCE
- Type in password if it has not been saved

Step 2: Tap on the Listen WiFi app

Step 3: Select venue - UCE

Step 4: Adjust volume on your device



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## **People Finder**

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Vice President: Sue Lynch  
Treasurer, Finance Committee Chair: Andrew Mills [andrew@misc.ca](mailto:andrew@misc.ca)  
Secretary: Susan Ruttan  
Trustees: Marilyn Gaa, Gerard Hayduk, Wendy Smith and Art Breier  
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Church Office: Janet Polkovsky [chadmin@uce.ca](mailto:chadmin@uce.ca)  
Head Teller: David Rae  
Chorealis Choir: Gordon Ritchie, Karen Mills  
Church Services: Gordon Ritchie  
Lay Chaplain: Marilyn Gaa  
Building and Grounds: Alan Boyle

# UCE EVENTS APRIL 2025

→ Bring your garage sale items to the church, 10 am - 3 pm, except Sundays ←

SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY

30 10:30 am Service	31	1	2	3 7:15 pm Chorealis Rehearsal	4	5
6 10:30 am Service	7	8	9	10 7:15 pm Chorealis Rehearsal	11	12
13 10:30 am Service	14	15	16 7:15 pm Zoom Board Meeting	17 7:15 pm Chorealis Rehearsal	18	19 →
20 10:30 am Service & Potluck	21	22 UCE CASINO @ PURE CASINO ON ARGYL RD	23	24 7:15 pm Chorealis Rehearsal	25 6 pm Soul Matters Movie Night	26 →
26 10:30 am Service	28 →	29 →	30 → 6 pm UUs On Tap @ 3 Vikings	1 MAY <b>UCE GARAGE SALE</b>	2	3